

THE TIMES - DISPATCH

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

Business Office 116 E. Main Street.
Washington Bureau, 362-7 Munsey Building.
Manchester Bureau, 11102 11th Street.
Petersburg Bureau, 40 N. Sycamore St.
Lynchburg Bureau, 215 Eighth St.

BY MAIL. One Six Three One
POSTAGE PAID. Year. Mo. Qu. Mo.
Daily with Sunday, 16.00 4.00 11.00 .35
Daily without Sunday, 4.00 1.00 .25
Sunday only, 1.00 .25 .10
Weekly edition only, 2.00 1.00 .25
Sundays (Wednesday), 1.00 .50 .25

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester, and Petersburg—

One Week. One Year.
Daily with Sunday, 14 cents \$6.50
Daily without Sunday, 10 cents 4.50
Sunday only, 5 cents 2.50
(Yearly subscriptions payable in advance.)

Entered, January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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MONDAY, MAY 13, 1907.

We suffer much from the faults of others, but we lose more by our ignorance.—Huskin.

Dames and Daughters.

A correspondent wishes to know the distinction between the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames. In one sense there is no difference. They are all very charming, patriotic women. But these distinctions are made by the organizations themselves.

Under the constitution of the National Society of Colonial Dames it is prescribed that the members shall be women "who are descended in their own right from some ancestor of worthy life who came to reside in an American colony prior to 1760, which ancestor, or some one of his descendants being a lineal descendant of the applicant, shall have rendered efficient service to his country during the Colonial period, either in the founding of a commonwealth or of an institution which has survived and developed into importance, or who shall have held an important position in the Colonial government, and who, by distinguished services, shall have contributed to the founding of this great and powerful nation."

Any woman is eligible for membership in the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution who is eighteen years of age, and who is descended from an ancestor who, "with unflinching loyalty, rendered material aid to the cause of independence as a recognized patriot, as soldier or sailor, or as civil officer in one of the several Colonies or States, or United Colonies or States," provided the applicant shall be acceptable to the society.

There is still another society known as Daughters of the Revolution. Eligibility to membership in this society is restricted to "women who are lineal descendants of an ancestor who was a military or naval or marine officer, soldier, sailor, or marine in actual service under the authority of any of the thirteen Colonies or States, or of the Continental Congress, and remained always loyal to such authority; or descendants of one who signed the Declaration of Independence, or of one who, as a member of the Continental Congress, or of the Congress of any of the Colonies or States, or as an officer appointed by or under the authority of any such representative bodies, actually assisted in the establishment of American independence by service rendered during the War of the Revolution, becoming thereby liable to conviction of treason against the government of Great Britain, but remaining always loyal to the authority of the Colonies or States."

These statements, however, are subject to any correction which Dames or Daughters may be pleased to make. They are written by a trembling Man.

Authors and Their Readers.

A writer in The Nineteenth Century and After, Mr. J. A. Spender, complains that the great mass of the reading public is getting little or no mental and moral uplift from contemporary authors. No one, he thinks, is engaged in interpreting the present, through books, for the instruction and guidance of the average man. Most of our writers are incapable of instructing and guiding anybody. Their best is to be entertaining, to be liked; they do that well enough and they have their reward. The other and smaller class, those of better gifts who really have something to say, do their work in a way which makes it impossible that it should carry any general appeal. They "pride themselves on appealing to a few refined persons and deliberately choose what is remote and complicated." They do not reach the public at all. The public, in short, gets little substantial sustenance from one set of writers, because they have little to give, and none from the other, because they do not choose to deliver it.

That is Mr. Spender's view, and there is much truth in it. It is unfortunate that those of our writers who are the most read are precisely those who have the least to say. The age, of course, is not prolific in great masters of literature, but surely there are a few who are worth a hearing. Is it impossible that they should attain to the larger audience now monopolized by the manufacturers of best sellers? Are greatness and popularity absolutely irreconcilable?

It is a prime duty with every man who has an idea to spread to make his

field as large as he can. Teaching is not a work to be done in a corner. When a clergyman resigns a charge where he is accomplishing results to assume a larger one, he does it on the ground that his opportunities for good will be by so much increased.

The argument is generally accepted as sound. Clergymen are not the only preachers. The novelist may be one; so may the essayist and the editor; the poet must be one or he is not poet. And the reasoning that applies to the clerical preacher applies to all other preachers, too. If they are good preachers, it is their business to see that they draw round them as many listeners as possible. Not to do so is to have been half a failure. Browning's obscurity is his great shortcoming not so much because it makes him "hard to read" to those who will read him anyway, but because it keeps so many people from ever reading him at all. So with the artificial and clumsy terminology in which Carlyle saw fit to wrap up the fine sense of "Sartor Resartus." Truth is great enough to be simple; and whatever is worth saying at all deserves to be said in such a way that everybody can understand it.

It is no disgrace to be popular. It is no sign of inferiority to write so that plain, everyday people will know what you are driving at. To be the master of all knowledge, but to expound it so that only half a dozen elect persons in a generation can share it with you, is to have had a fine mission and deliberately turned away from it.

A Monument to Nye.

Twelve or fifteen years ago Bill Nye was regarded as one of the greatest humorists of the day. He was distinguishedly a Southern product, although there was a Western flavor in much of his work. He did not contribute to literature, and while many of his best efforts and writings have been preserved, the volume somehow is unattractive to this generation, which is lavish in its praise of the yellow, or "funny," page. Nye died a poor man. His widow still resides near Asheville, and at last accounts was preparing to open a boarding-house. Her husband is almost forgotten, except by the craft, and now comes a report that at the meeting of the Association of American Press Humorists, in Los Angeles, a movement will be started to provide funds for the erection of a monument to his memory. It was not until late in life that Nye began to write copyrighted articles. He received royalties instead of space rates, but his income was limited, and he was not paid in accordance with the value placed upon his stories in that day. In one of his best stories he described his new farm and his field of rice, out of which he said he expected to harvest at least a pint. His sarcasm, too, was biting, and on one occasion he remarked that he could stand on a high mountain near Asheville and look toward the ocean with such powerful eyes that he could see objects as small as Tillman.

The brightest of Bill Nye's sayings, however, was that classic music was better than it sounded. "It combines wit and wisdom with the skill of genius." Two years ago, when the Virginia and North Carolina Press Associations met at Asheville, a clever humorist, who was an admirer of Nye, asked for a contribution from each association to mark the humorist's grave with a granite shaft. The money was cheerfully contributed, and other press associations also contributed to the fund. We have never heard, however, whether or not enough money was raised for the purpose.

The Boulevard.

A correspondent sends the following communication, which is worthy of special prominence:
Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Permit me to call your attention to the condition of the driveway leading to the New Reservoir Park. From Grove Road down to Beverly Street there is almost one continual mud puddle.

It seems that some one ought to be responsible for not giving this, the only decent driveway around Richmond, some attention. With the many handsome carriages and the rapidly increasing number of automobiles in use for pleasure riding, Richmond should have a road in the neighborhood of Reservoir Park like a billiard-table.

Can't you wake up the Street Committee or engineer's department, and get the many visitors coming over this city this year, the present condition of the roads in and around the city will certainly reflect on some one.

L. B. H.
Grove Road is now being improved, and we hope the work will be extended to the Boulevard. This driveway is ideal, barring the track. It is perfectly level and straightaway, shaded by beautiful trees. It ought to be kept in prime condition, and it ought to be sprinkled every afternoon in dry weather during the driving season. The cost would be trifling, and it would add a hundredfold to the comfort of those who drive or walk along that great thoroughfare.

While on this subject, there is another matter to which we would direct the attention of the authorities. At the approach to the drive around the lake, there stands a shanty in the last stages of dilapidation. It is a public eyecore and a disgrace to the general surroundings. We do not wish to run anybody out of a home, but it is ever so humble, but that disgusting shack is simply intolerable, and ought to be removed.

Negro Slave-Owners.

Reference by some of our contemporaries to the fact that free negroes in the South owned negro slaves before and during the War between the States reminds us that a negro in this State, who is now at the head of a negro institution, was the owner of his own

father, whom he purchased from a white man.

The subject recalls another interesting incident.
Soon after the war a New England Senator visited some of the Southern States to look the situation over, and while in South Carolina was the guest of a well-to-do negro. In the course of conversation the New Englander remarked: "What a glorious thing that the members of your race have all received their freedom."

"Glorious nothing!" replied the negro. "My negroes were my property and the Yankees took them from me without paying me a cent."

Tradition says that at this point the New England Senator dropped the subject.

Let the law of homicide remain as it is, but let the punishment for dishonoring an innocent woman be increased so as to make it adequate to the offense. The Richmond Times-Dispatch, in a recent editorial, takes this view, and, we think properly. Let the law provide no excuse for its own violation, and then let all of its provisions be insisted on.—Winchester Star.

This is from the pen of Hon. Richard E. Byrd, who will probably be the next Speaker of the House of Delegates. We are gratified to know that he concurs in the view of The Times-Dispatch that the way to repeal the unwritten law is to make the written law effective. We hope that all members of the next Legislature will turn their attention in that direction.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch says the idea of having Mr. Bryan nominate Mr. Roosevelt was originated by the Charlottesville Progress. Why will The Times-Dispatch insist upon digging up such old stories about its neighbors and friends?—Washington Herald.

Does the Herald mean to say that the Progress is un-proud of its nomination?

Says the ever cheery Baltimore American: "We first rear the palace in the soul before it shines in marble splendor." Yes, indeed. Very few palaces shine in marble splendor before they are reared.

George Gould explains that the railroads' losses through reduced fares will be borne by the dear people, as solemnly as though he were propounding a bit of novel information.

According to published statements, John W. Gates has only \$10,000,000 left. Sooner or later, a betting man is sure to learn something of the grinding pinch of poverty.

Bearing in mind the comfort and pleasure of Miss Mabelle Gilman, we wish the United States Steel Corporation a very prosperous year.

That modest look on the face of Senator Beveridge dates from the day when he heard some one ask: "Who is the greatest American?"

Senator Dewey asserts that the Republican party always tells the truth. There are a few quips left in the old chap, after all.

"Where are your poets?" demands Ambassador Bryce. Well, most of them, Ambassador, are hiding from the bill collector.

If Addicks really wants a municipal job in Wilmington, why doesn't he get himself appointed inspector of gas meters?

"We are all going in the same direction," says Mr. Bryan. Which may account for some of the rear-end collisions.

Out in Idaho the losing side will have to console itself with the old maxim, "Boise will be Boise."

Even in San Francisco, doubtless, General Kuroki would be permitted to attend a correspondence school.

Taft and Hughes for 1908 make a combination that could not appeal strongly to Mr. Fairbanks.

The Chinese make a perfume which sells for \$3 a drop. And probably they short measure at that.

There was a good deal that Chancellor Day might have learned from the late Silent Smith.

A milk toast to the young heir!

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Norway has five leper hospitals with about 600 patients.

British mills turn out daily more than 10,000 miles of cotton cloth.

An Italian, G. B. Bladego, has written a book of over 1,200 pages on the Alpine tunnels.

There are two former newsmen in the United States Senate—Smith of Michigan, and Curtis of Kansas.

In Turkey the tombstones of the faithful, where the departed is a man of eminence, are capped with the feet carved in marble.

Dr. Paul Polier, professor of anatomy at the University of Paris, has just died almost on the day which he foretold after diagnosing his own disease of the liver.

There is now at Sandy Hook proving grounds the biggest cannon ever turned out by the United States Ordnance Department.

The United Kingdom, which is the largest importer in the world of cattle and sheep for slaughtering purposes, is oddly enough the largest exporter of horses for the same purpose.

Railroad detectives at Chickasha, Kan., searching for lost tools taken by shop men, found that one employee had hauled away a locomotive cab and attached it to the house for use as a kitchen.

When Liang Tung Yen, the new Chinese minister, reaches Washington the tennis racket is likely to have an accession, unless "Ting" as the Yale students used to call him, has gone back as an athlete.

President Dabney, of Cincinnati University, is planning a commercial college in connection with the institution. He proposes to have the students work in banks and brokerage offices while pursuing the course of study.

John W. Gates, who for a while has given up the pursuit of the bulls and bears in Wall Street to go bear hunting in France, regards no article in his wardrobe with more pride than he does his \$10,000 fur overcoat.

New York houses in the financial district of New York City have their confidential orders attended to by women. They are in charge of the private telephone and they only with the exception of the members of the firm, are familiar with the names of certain customers.

New York women are showing a strong inclination to revive the craze for Panama hats, and Fifth Avenue milliners are sending orders for big supplies of the hat way in.

When Mrs. Roosevelt returned from the autumn last summer she brought a genuine Panama, and her first appearance in it was a signal to the do-like-like class.

Borrowed Jingles.

POEMS BY THE COPY BOY.

On Assuming Long Pants.

What noble thoughts await
Short-panted youth at Maud's estate
The scales fall from his blinking eyes
And wisdom leaveth his beery heels.

And now sweet boyhood gone
And now peace with the patches on
let joy recount and bliss extol
The boy that was is an adult.

stern Manhood calls him by his name
And bids him try for wealth and fame
And he is Johnny on the job
With his long pants on Yes sir B bob

his trousers fan the office floor
And his hits takes on an inch or more
And what additional knicks
exit long stockings Enter sex

big How changed is life's aspect
And how the pace command Respect
Hey kids are sneaker than they war
and a lady just now called me Sur

the boss seems somewhat more inclined
to grant that leaveth which the mind
of youth requires for later gains
I'm reading frank upon the Plains

at first his eye was coldly thrown
Tew as if they were like his own
but Comfort swept away his frowns
on seeing their war hand Me downs

odeblykings How keen was I
to be a slave in Time gone by
O youth in your short-panted teens
you soul yew don't know Beans

E gad your very pants invite
infringement of your sacred rite
They work you like a bonded slave
and send yew few an Urly grave

but praises be Tew full-length pants,
I'm out of that fell circumstance
"I'm around Just like a man
and work some other peter Pan

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

MERELY JOKING.

A House Divided.

Knecker: "So they separated for incompatibility?"
Becker: "Yes, he talked baseball and she talked bridge."—New York Sun.

Corrected.

"That horrid Miss Jones said that you weren't a day under thirty-two."
"The cat! I hope you told her a few things!"—Cleveland Leader.

She Did, Too.
"I presume your children ask you a great many embarrassing questions?"
"Yes, it is wonderful how like their mother those youngsters are."—Houston Post.

The Explanation.

Benedict: "Why is the bride crying—because she leaves her parents?"
Becker: "Oh, I guess not. She likes the bridegroom, and I guess she feels sorry for him."—Utica Observer.

A Faux Pas.

"Sometimes, darling, I almost feel as if I were unworthy of you."
"George! How dare you look me in the face and say only feel that way sometimes!"—Chicago Record.

Both of Them.

Teacher: "Have you any position in view for me?"
Agent: "I know one man who wants a tutor for his empty-headed son."
Teacher: "Well, I think I could fill the vacancy."—Harper's Weekly.

POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHERS.

RHODE ISLAND is little and it takes its time to elect a United States Senator, but it was the only State of the forty-two to have its building at Jamestown fully completed and finished when the exposition opened.—Kentucky Journal.

J. Edward Addicks says: "The gap between heaven and hell is not so deep as the gap between newspapers and the truth." How about the gap between the gas-house and the United States Senate?—Brooklyn Eagle.

Tonopah is to celebrate Decoration Day with a big prize fight. The rest of the country will celebrate by playing baseball, golf and tennis and zipping around in automobiles. Tonopah is a little more crude. That is all.—Chicago Record-Herald.

There are so many asphalt scandals throughout the country that one feels that the man who wrote "You can't touch pitch without becoming defiled" was a sure enough prophet.—New York Herald.

Possibly all legislation would be impossible without logrolling but it would puzzle any casuist to tell the difference between a member of the Legislature voting for a bill for money and voting for it to get some other member to vote for some other bill.—Chicago Chronicle.

The poet Longfellow's eminent reputation for veracity helps even in these days of assurance that "Behind the clouds is the sun still shining."—Kansas City Star.

Mr. J. Stant Fassel, "cannot see any way for the President to ever being nominated next year." If he does so it he shouldn't tell the President.—Atlanta Journal.

COMMENT OF VIRGINIA EDITORS.

Campaign for Good Roads.

We hope anyhow to see Rockbridge represented in both branches by men thoroughly conversant with the needs of the surplus in the treasury applied State aid to roads. Candidates are already in the field for these offices. There will be there. The County News would like to know, and we are sure, how they stand on this foremost question.—Rockbridge News.

Tazewell Grammar.

If you mean Tazewell had it's plural and some over.—Clinch Valley News.

The Rate Decision.

To the mind of a layman, like ourselves, however, there may be some doubt as to the power and the right of the Corporation Commission to fix one rate for the big tolls, another rate for the medium-sized, and still another rate for the little fellows.—Hampden Monitor.

But There's Method in It.

If the Landmark don't stop its foolishness it will be forced to establish an asylum for insane editors. The Times-Dispatch is on the verge of "lunacy" now, while the Charlotte Observer has one clean draft. It may be fun for the boys but it is terrible on the frogs.—Norfolk Argus-Ledger.

The Library's Reputation.

It is very evident that the American Library Association takes the whitewashing view as regards the Virginia State Library. It is planning a commercial college in connection with the institution. He proposes to have the students work in banks and brokerage offices while pursuing the course of study.

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